

United States
Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eugene District Office

CFER Riparian Leaf Litter Study

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW

Background: The Cooperative Forest Ecosystem Research (CFER) program was developed to facilitate sound management of forest ecosystems, with emphasis on meeting research information needs of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). CFER program cooperators include BLM, ODF, U.S. Geological Survey, and Oregon State University. One of the four current research themes of CFER is Influences of Riparian Vegetative Community Composition on Animal Community Response. As part of this research theme, a research project by Stephanie Hart, a Master's degree student at Oregon State University, would explore energy inputs of leaf litter to streams.

Proposed Action: Research plots 5 meters by 8 meters would be established near streams in the following locations:

Lake Creek-15 N1/8 OF SE1/4 OF SEC 15 T15S R07W
Lake Creek Trib-16 SW1/16 OF NE1/4 OF SEC 16 T15S R07W
Lake Creek-17 SE1/16 OF NE1/4 OF SEC 17 T15S R07W
Upper Billy Tower SE1/16 OF NW1/4 OF SEC 14 T15S R07W
Lower Billy Tower NE1/16 OF SW1/4 OF SEC 14 T15S R07W

All locations would be within Riparian Reserves. Plots would be marked with mesh fencing with flagging. Plastic baskets would be placed in plots to catch leaf litter. Within the plots, branches of shrubs would be cut and removed from the plot, but retained at the site. No power tools would be used. No mineral soil would be exposed.

Decision: The proposed action described above is approved to be carried out during calendar years 2003-2005.

Rationale: The Proposed Action qualifies as a categorical exclusion as described in the Departmental Manual (516 DM 2, Appendix 1, Part A (1.6 Non-destructive data collection), and does not meet any of the exception criteria. The proposed action is in conformance with the Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl, April 1994 (ROD) , and the Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan, June 1995 (Eugene District ROD/RMP) as amended by the Record of Decision for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines, USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management January 2001.

Prepared by: /s/ Richard Hardt
Forest Ecologist

Date: 7/18/03

Reviewed by: /s/ Rick Colvin
Landscape Planner

Date: 7/18/03

Approved by: /s/ Steven Calish
Field Manager

Date: 7/18/03

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
EUGENE DISTRICT

1791A
CE-03-38

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW
Exception Criteria Review Checklist

Proposed Action: CFER Riparian Leaf Litter Study

Review the proposed action against each of the 10 criteria listed below. If the project meets one or more of the criteria, it is an exception from categorical exclusion and MUST be analyzed in an EA or EIS. To qualify as a Categorical Exclusion the proposed action may not meet any of the criteria. If the criterion does not apply, indicate "Not Applicable." Any mitigation measures (such as contract stipulations or terms and conditions on permits) necessary to ensure that the proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion should be identified at the bottom of the page.

Exception Criteria		Comments
1.	Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety	No
2.	Have adverse effects on unique resources (i.e., parks, recreation, refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, wetlands, flood plains, etc.)	No
3.	Have highly controversial environmental effects	No
4.	Have highly uncertain environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks	No
5.	Establish a precedent that could result in significant impacts	No
6.	Be directly related to other actions having cumulatively significant effects	No
7.	Have adverse effects on cultural or historical resources	No
8.	Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed as threatened or endangered or have adverse effect on designated critical habitat for these species.	No
9.	Require compliance with E.O. 11988 (flood plain management), E.O. 11990 (protection of wetlands), or the Fish & Wildlife Coordination Act	No
10.	Threaten to violate Federal, State, Local or Native American law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment	No
Mitigation measures needed to qualify as CE: *		

Reviewed By: /s/ Rick Colvin

Date: 7/18/03

Above mitigation measures have been adopted and will be implemented.

Field Manager: /s/ Steven Calish

Date: 7/18/03

OR 090-1791-5
(June 1993)